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AUTHORITY: 29 U.S.C. 711(c) and 750, unless otherwise noted.

SOURCE: 46 FR 5423, Jan. 19, 1981, unless otherwise noted.

Subpart A—General

§ 371.1 What is the Vocational Rehabilitation Services Program for American Indians with Disabilities?

This program is designed to provide vocational rehabilitation services to American Indians with disabilities who reside on Federal or State reservations, consistent with their individual strengths, resources, priorities, concerns, abilities, capabilities, and informed choice, so that they may prepare for and engage in gainful employment.

(Authority: Secs. 100(a)(2) and 130(a) of the Act; 29 U.S.C. 720(a)(2) and 750(a))

[60 FR 58137, Nov. 24, 1995]

§ 371.2 Who is eligible for assistance under this program?

Applications may be made only by the governing bodies of Indian tribes and consortia of those governing bodies

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located on Federal and State reservations.

(Authority: Sec. 130(a) of the Act; 29 U.S.C. 750(a))

[46 FR 5423, Jan. 19, 1981, as amended at 52 FR 30555, Aug. 14, 1987]

§ 371.3 What regulations apply to this program?

The following regulations apply to this program—

(a) 34 CFR part 369;

(b) The regulations in this part 371.

(Authority: Sec. 130 of the Act; 29 U.S.C. 750)

§ 371.4 What definitions apply to this program?

(a) The definitions in 34 CFR part 369 apply to this program;

(b) The following definitions also apply specifically to this program—

American Indian means a person who is a member of an Indian tribe.

(Authority: Secs. 12(c) and 130 of the Act; 29 U.S.C. 711(c) and 750)

Consortium means two or more eligible governing bodies of Indian tribes that make application as a single applicant under an agreement whereby each governing body is legally responsible for carrying out all of the activities in the application.

(Authority: Secs. 12(c) and 130 of the Act; 29 U.S.C. 711(c) and 750)

Governing bodies of Indian tribes means those duly elected or appointed representatives of an Indian tribe or of an Alaskan native village. These representatives must have the authority to enter into contracts, agreements, and grants on behalf of their constituency.

(Authority: Secs. 12(c) and 130 of the Act; 29 U.S.C. 711(c) and 750)

Indian tribe means any Federal or State Indian band, rancheria, pueblo, colony, and community, including any Alaskan native village or regional village corporation (as defined in or established pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act).

(Authority: Secs. 12(c) and 130 of the Act; 29 U.S.C. 711(c) and 750)

Reservation means a Federal or State Indian reservation, public domain Indian allotment, former Indian reservation in Oklahoma, and land held by incorporated Native groups, regional corporations and village corporations under the provisions of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act.

(Authority: Secs. 12(c) and 130(c) of the Act; 29 U.S.C. 711(c) and 750(c))

[46 FR 5423, Jan. 19, 1981, as amended at 52 FR 30555, Aug. 14, 1987; 59 FR 8338, Feb. 18, 1994]

§ 371.5 What is the length of the project period under this program?

(a) The Secretary approves a project period of up to three years.

(b) The Secretary may extend a grant for up to two additional years if the grantee includes in its extension request—

(1) An assurance that the project is in compliance with all applicable program requirements; and

(2) Satisfactory evidence that—

(i) The project has made substantial and measurable progress in meeting the needs of American Indians with disabilities on the reservation or reservations it serves;

(ii) American Indians with disabilities who have received project services have achieved employment outcomes consistent with their strengths, resources, priorities, concerns, abilities, capabilities, and informed choice; and

(iii) There is a continuing need for the project.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 1820-0018)

(Authority: Section 130(b)(3) of the Act; 29 U.S.C. 750(b)(3))

[60 FR 58137, Nov. 24, 1995]

Subpart B—What Kinds of Activities Does the Department of Education Assist Under This Program?

§ 371.10 What types of projects are authorized under this program?

The Vocational Rehabilitation Service Program for American Indians with Disabilities provides financial assistance for the establishment and operation of tribal vocational rehabilita-

tion service programs for American Indians with disabilities who reside on Federal or State reservations.

(Authority: Sec. 130(a) of the Act; 29 U.S.C. 750(a))

[59 FR 8338, Feb. 18, 1994]

Subpart C—How Does One Apply for a Grant?

§ 371.20 What are the application procedures for this program?

In the development of an application, a governing body or consortium is required to consult with the designated State unit or the designated State units of the State or States in which vocational rehabilitation services are to be provided.

(Authority: Sec. 130(b) of the Act; 29 U.S.C. 750(b))

[46 FR 5423, Jan. 19, 1981, as amended at 52 FR 30555, Aug. 14, 1987]

§ 371.21 What are the special application requirements related to the State plan program?

Each applicant under this program must provide evidence that—

(a) Effort will be made to provide a broad scope of vocational rehabilitation services in a manner and at a level of quality at least comparable to those services provided by the designated State unit under 34 CFR part 361.

(Authority: Sec. 12(c) of the Act; 29 U.S.C. 711(c))

(b) All decisions affecting eligibility for and the nature and scope of vocational rehabilitation services to be provided, and the provision of these services, will be made by the tribal vocational rehabilitation program through its vocational rehabilitation unit and will not be delegated to another agency or individual.

(Authority: Secs. 12(c) and 101(a) of the Act; 29 U.S.C. 711(c) and 721(a))

(c) Priority in the delivery of vocational rehabilitation service will be given to those American Indians with disabilities who are the most severely disabled.

(Authority: Secs. 12(c) and 101(a)(5) of the Act; 29 U.S.C. 711(c) and 721(a)(5))

(d) An order of selection of individuals with disabilities to be served